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The news—briefly

CIA beefs up operations in countries vital to US

Washington

The CIA has strengthened its intelligence-gathering operations to assess instability in countries vital to the US, Director William Casey said Monday. Among the countries watched are Egypt, Saudi Arabia, Pakistan, and Mexico.

The same day, the White House announced guidelines making it easier for the Federal Bureau of Investigation to monitor domestic terrorist groups and political dissidents advocating violence. The rules, which take effect this month, would allow the FBI to monitor activities of such groups even if they were inactive.